

LIBRARY
CANNOCK RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and the

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the year

1955

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CANNOCK RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Chairman of the Council W.J.Garratt, Esq., A.M.Inst.B.E., J.P.,

Vice-Chairman " " Major R.F.P.Monckton, T.D., D.L.,

Chairman of the Public Health Committee. W.J.Garratt, Esq., A.M.Inst.B.E., J.P.,

Vice Chairman of the Public Health Committee. A. Parkes, Esq.,

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE AS AT 31-12-55.

Revd, A. N. Darsley.

Mr. H. T. Bill.

Mr. H. A. Bore.

Mr. A. G. Devereux.

Mr. R. A. R. Elsmore.

Mr. J. Fisher.

Miss A. Follows.

Revd. H. P. Hollingworth.

Mrs. L. J. Perks.

Mr. S. Rushton.

Miss M. J. Walker.

Mr. R. J. Westwood.

Mr. F. J. McCarthy.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Duncan T. McAinsh, M.C., M.A., M.B., Ch.B.,

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

G. Richardson, M.S.I.A., Certificate S.I.E.J.B.
Certificate for Meat and Food Inspector.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

O. W. Parnall, Certificate S.I.E.J.B.

CLERKS.

Mrs. J. Goldstraw.

Miss J. Wynn.

Public Health Department,
Cannock Rural District Council,
Penkridge.

September, 1956.

To the Chairman and Members of the Cannock Rural District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour of presenting to you the Annual Report for the year 1955. The report has been compiled on the general lines indicated by the Ministry of Health. During 1955 your Medical Officer of Health was the late Dr. Duncan T. McAinsh.

In the Cannock Rural District in 1955 the Live Birth Rate was 16.7 per 1,000 population and the Death Rate 10.4 compared with respective figures of 15.0 and 11.7 for England and Wales. There were 419 live births in the Rural District in 1955 (208 males and 211 females) and the total number of deaths was 261 (145 males and 116 females), live births thus exceeding total deaths by 158. Deaths of infants under 1 year of age numbered 13, giving an Infant Mortality Rate of 31.0 compared with 24.9 for England and Wales (the latter figure was the lowest ever recorded for England and Wales.)

1955 was a "Measles Year", 529 cases being notified in the Cannock R.D. Area. There were 19 cases of Scarlet Fever, 20 cases of Whooping Cough and 29 cases of Dysentery compared with figures in 1954 of 33, 19 and 46 respectively. All the cases of Dysentery were of the mild Sonne Type. No cases of Diphtheria were notified during the year. There were 36 Deaths from Malignant Neoplasms, including 4 Male deaths registered as being due to Carcinoma of the Lung or Bronchus. In England and Wales deaths from Carcinoma of the Lung and Bronchus in 1955 rose from 657 to 693 per million population in men and from 102 to 105 per million in women over the 1954 figures. The part played by tobacco-smoking, especially cigarette smoking, in this connection continues to attract much publicity and discussion.

The Mid-1955 population of the Cannock Rural District was given as 25,110 by the Registrar-General (25,340 in Mid-1954).

For the Cannock Rural District the Health Services under Part 3 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, are provided by the Staffordshire County Council which is the Local Health Authority. These services include Ambulance facilities, Ante-natal and Infant Welfare Clinics, District Nursing Service, Home-helps etc.

67 permanent new dwellings were erected by the Cannock R.D.C. in 1955 and 73 by private enterprise. The body of the report contains a summary of inspections etc. carried out by the Public Health Inspectors.

In conclusion I have to thank the Staff of the Public Health Department for much help in the preparation of this report.

A. Thomson.

Statistics of the Area-1955.

Area (in acres) 56,608.

Registrar General's estimate of the resident population in mid-year 25,110.

Rateable Value as at 31-5-56. £120,750, and a penny rate produces £448-0-0.

There were no changes in the boundaries of the district during 1955.

BIRTHS.

	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Total Live Births.	208	211	419
Legitimate.	199	204	403
Illegitimate.	9	7	16
Total Still Births.	4	6	10
Legitimate.	4	5	9
Illegitimate.	-	1	1

Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 population for the district	16.7
Corrected Birth Rate per 1,000 population for the district	16.0
Birth Rate per 1,000 population for England and Wales	15.0

Stillbirths 23.3 per 1,000 total (Live and Still) Births.

Stillbirths for England and Wales the corresponding figure is 23.1

DEATHS.

Total 261. Male 145. Female 116.

Local Crude Death Rate 10.4 per 1,000 population.

Corrected Death Rate 11.9 per 1,000 population.

Death Rate for England and Wales 11.7 per 1,000 population.

The Maternal Mortality Rate for the country was 0.64 per 1,000 total Births (Live and Still).

There was no case of Maternal Mortality in the district during the year.

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER
ONE YEAR OF AGE.

Deaths of Infants under one year of Age = 13.
distributed as follows:-

	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Total	5	8
Legitimate	5	6
Illegitimate	-	2

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births 31.0

Of these 13 Deaths 10 occurred under four weeks of age.

Deaths from Measles (all ages).....1
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages).....Nil.
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years).....Nil.

INCIDENCE OF SCARLET FEVER, DIPHTHERIA
AND PNEUMONIA DURING THE TEN YEARS 1946-1955.

	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Pneumonia.
1946	22	11	25
1947	58	5	24
1948	99	2	12
1949	65	2	18
1950	19	1	7
1951	14	2	19
1952	32	2	6
1953	32	-	12
1954	33	-	22
1955	19	-	8

AGE-Incidence of Infectious Diseases, 1955.

AGE GROUPS.	Scarlet Fever	Measles		Whooping Cough	Dysentery		Erysipelas		Polio-myelitis		Primary Pneumonia		Pulmonary Tuberculosis		Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	
		M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	-	-	7	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
1 - 2 years	-	-	50	1	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
3 - 4 years	1	4	57	1	4	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 9 years	9	2	162	6	7	4	4	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	1	-
10-14 years	1	2	8	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
15-24 years	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	4	-	-
25 and over	-	-	1	-	-	4	4	-	-	-	2	4	6	5	3	-
Age unknown	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	11	8	289	9	11	14	15	-	1	-	3	5	8	11	4	1

REGISTRAR GENERAL'S SHORT LIST
OF CAUSES OF DEATH.

<u>Causes of Death.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>
Tuberculosis, respiratory.....	-	-	-
Tuberculosis, other.....	-	-	-
Syphilitic disease.....	-	-	-
Diphtheria.....	-	-	-
Whooping Cough.....	-	-	-
Meningococcal infections.....	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis.....	-	-	-
Measles.....	1	1	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases.....	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach.....	4	3	1
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus.....	4	4	-
Malignant neoplasm, breast.....	4	-	4
Malignant neoplasm, uterus.....	4	-	4
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms.....	20	14	6
Leukaemia, aleukaemia.....	-	-	-
Diabetes.....	4	2	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system.....	36	13	23
Coronary disease, angina.....	33	21	12
Hypertension with heart disease.....	10	6	4
Other heart disease.....	48	27	21
Other circulatory disease.....	6	4	2
Influenza.....	2	2	-
Pneumonia.....	9	5	4
Bronchitis.....	15	8	7
Other diseases of respiratory system.....	4	4	-
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.....	4	3	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea.....	3	1	2
Nephritis and nephrosis.....	2	1	1
Hyperplasia of prostate.....	3	3	-
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion.....	-	-	-
Congenital malformations.....	2	2	-
Other defined and ill-defined diseases.....	29	13	16
Motor Vehicle accidents.....	2	1	1
All other accidents.....	8	5	3
Suicide.....	4	2	2
Homicide and operations of war.....	-	-	-
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TOTALS.	261	145	116

REPORT OF CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

Summary of Inspections and work done during 1955.

Number of houses inspected for repairs.....	155
Re-inspections, calls etc.....	342
Slaughter-house Licences renewed.....	6
Meat and Food inspections.....	471
Visits to Dairies and Milk Distributors.....	7
Petrol licences renewed.....	69
New petrol licences issued.....	4
Drainage work examined.....	92
Cases of Infectious Disease investigated.....	193
Cases of Infectious Disease removed.....	18
Houses disinfected after infectious cases.....	21
Reports of Infectious cases to M.O.H. (excluding T.B.).....	10
New licences, Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.....	2
Renewal licences, Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.....	31
Informal Notices issued.....	98
(Affecting 119 houses)	
Statutory Notices issued.....	9
Water Samples taken.....	Chemical..... 34
	Bacteriological..... 36
Moveable Dwelling licences issued.....	23
Visits re- Moveable dwellings.....	67
Visits re- Refuse matters.....	301
Visits re- Disinfestation for vermin.....	9

SPECIAL MILK LICENCES.

Food and Drugs Acts, 1938/44.
Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.

	<u>Pasteurised.</u>	<u>Sterilised.</u>	<u>Tuberculin Tested.</u>
Supplementary Licences.	15	13	15
Dealers' Licences.	8	12	5

WATER SUPPLIES.

Water supplies to the district during 1955 were, as in previous years, from the three main suppliers viz:- The South Staffordshire Water Works Company, The Wolverhampton Corporation and The Stafford Corporation. The quality of these waters remained satisfactory.

The provision of water mains in the Ivetsey Bank area was completed during the year.

This Council undertook to supply water to Blynhill Common and arrangements have been made to receive a supply from The East Shropshire Water Board. The laying of this main commenced during the year.

The water from none of the three sources was plumbo-solvent.

SOURCE.	No. of Samples taken for Bacteriological Examination.	No. of Samples taken for Chemical Analysis.	RESULTS.			
			Satisfactory		Unsatisfactory	
			Bact:	Chem:	Bact:	Chem:
WELLS (Private)	23	21	3	4	20	17
SPRINGS (Private)	3	3	-	2	3	1
<u>MAIN SUPPLIES.</u>						
(a) PUBLIC	1	1	1	1	-	-
(b) PRIVATE	9	9	3	8	6	1
TOTALS.	36	34	7	15	29	19

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

The passing of the Slaughter-houses Act, 1954, allowed slaughtering to be carried out at private slaughter-houses. At the outbreak of War in 1939 there were 14 such slaughter-houses within the district. This number of 14 is now reduced to 6 being situated in the parishes of Cheslyn Hay, Essington, Brewood, Blymhill and Lapley.

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part.

	Cattle.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number inspected.	668	51	1,821	887
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci.</u>				
Whole carcases condemned.	-	-	-	2
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	47,	-	10	3
Percentage of the No. inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci.	0.03%	-	0.54%	0.56%
<u>Tuberculosis only:</u>				
Whole carcases condemned.	2	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	20	-	-	16
Percentage of the No. inspected affected with tuberculosis.	3.29	-	-	1.80

PARTICULARS OF NUMBER OF HOUSES SUPPLIED
FROM PUBLIC AND PRIVATE WATER MAINS.

	<u>HOUSES</u>	<u>HOUSES SUPPLIED</u> <u>DIRECT.</u>
Acton and Bednall.....	142	101
Blynhill.....	151	84
Brewood.....	1,057	1,007
Cheslyn Hay.....	855	854
Coppenhall.....	43	41
Dunston.....	87	32
Essington.....	925	919
Featherstone.....	325	324
Hatherton.....	161	155
Hilton.....	92	86
Huntington.....	366	366
Lapley.....	240	207
Penkridge.....	829	750
Saredon.....	128	118
Shareshill.....	106	102
Stretton.....	49	45
Teddesley Hay.....	28	22
Weston-under-Lizard.....	82	77
Great Wyrley.....	1,324	1,320

ANTHRAX.

During the year 9 suspected cases of Anthrax (one case subsequently confirmed) were reported compared with 9 suspected cases in the previous year.

REFUSE COLLECTION.

The collection of refuse was, as in previous years, carried out by direct labour. The small fleet is made up of 2 Shelvoke and Drewry rear-loading refuse collectors each of 16/18 cu. yd. capacity, 2 Dennis side-loaders each of 10 cu. yd. capacity. One of these Dennis vehicles is now only used part time in this service.

By introducing the large rear-loading vehicles the number is the same as in 1947, despite the increase in the number of houses since that year. For example, these large Shelvoke and Drewry vehicles carry in each load approximately 230 bins compared with an average of 100 bins with the now regarded old type of side-loader. Journeys to the tips are, therefore, much reduced in number.

The Fordson Tractor carrying Weatherill Hydraulic equipment continues to be a success in tip maintenance. This machine is capable of attending to three or four tips each day.

CESSPOOLS.

The emptying of cesspools is still a major problem for this department. At present two vehicles are employed using four men including drivers.

The machines used are manufactured by Shelvoke and Drewry and are now 3 and 4 years of age respectively. I had hoped that the number of cesspools in the district would gradually decrease but unfortunately they are still being built.

PAN CLOSETS.

The work of pan emptying continues to be much more extensive than is generally recognised. There are approximately 950 pan lavatories together with those from caravans.

This work was done by an old Karrier Bantam lorry adapted for this purpose. Three men were employed in the service.

As in previous years, I must say that this Council is very fortunate indeed in having men who will regularly do this filthy work in all kinds of weather.

